

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 03161 01 OF 02 022140Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /015 W  
-----051398 022156Z /63 R  
P 022105Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 760

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ASUNCION 3161

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: OVIP (TODMAN, TERENCE A.), PA  
SUBJECT: TODMAN VISIT - ARRIVAL STATEMENT

REF STATE 169054

1. FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR ASUNCION IN  
ENGLISH AND SPANISH.

2. I AM PLEASED TO BE IN ASUNCION TODAY - MY FIRST VISIT TO  
PARAGUAY, A COUNTRY WHOSE HEROIC PAST HAS MADE AN INDELIBLE  
IMPRESSION ON ALL STUDENTS OF HISTORY, THE VALOR AND HOPITALITY  
OF WHOSE PEOPLE ARE KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, AND WHOSE FRIEND-  
SHIP IS CHERISHED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

DURING MY STAT I HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS MATTERS  
OF MUTUAL INTERST WITH PRESIDENT STROESSNER, WITH FOREIGN  
MINISTER NOGUES, AND WITH OTHER OFFICAILS OF THE PARAGUAYAN  
GOERNMENT. I ALSO HOPE THAT THE VISIT WILL PROVIDE ME AN OPPORTUNITY  
TO MEET WITH AS BROAD A SPECTRUM AS THE VERY BRIEF TIME AVAILABLE  
WILL PERMIT, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA, WITH CHURCH,  
INDIAN, POLITICAL AND BUSINESS GROUPS, SO THAT I MAY GAIN A FULLER  
APPRECIATION OF THE PARAGUAYAN REALITY.

I ANTICIPATE THAT BOTH IN MY PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS AND IN  
MY MEETING WITH THE MEDIA PRIOR TO MY DEPARTURE TOMORROW AFTER-  
NOON, I MAY BE ASKED ABOUT OUR POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. SINCE  
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PRESIDENT CARTER WAS INAUGURATED, BOTH HE AND SECRETARY OF STATE  
VANCE HAVE EMPHASIZED REPEATEDLY THE CONCERN OF THE AMERICAN  
PEOPLE THAT US FOREIGN POLICY REFLECT THE HIGHEST IDEALS OF OUR  
COUNTRY. THIS HAS RESULTED IN A REKINDLING OF INTEREST BOTH  
WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD IN HUMAN RIGHTS, A SUBJECT  
ABOUT WHICH ALL OF THE COUNTRIES WITH WHICH WE TRADITIONALLY  
HAVE ENJOYED CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS HAVE ALSO SHOWN A

KEEN INTEREST. IN AM CONFIDENT THAT MY VISIT TO PARAGUAY WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT.

THIS IS MOST OF ALL A VISIT OF FAMILIARIZATION FOR ME. I ALREADY HAVE SOME APPRECIATION FOR THE ECONOMIC PROGRESS THIS COUNTRY HAS ENJOYED IN RECENT YEARS, TO WHICH MY GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN PROUD TO CONTRIBUTE IN COOPERATION WITH THE PARAGUAYAN GOVERNMENT; AND I AM AWARE OF THE ALMOST LIMITLESS PROSPECTS FOR PARAGUAY'S FUTURE AS THE GREAT PARANA HYDROELECTRIC SCHEMES UNFOLD. MY ASSOCIATE AND I ARE EAGERLY LOOKING FORWARD TO VIEWING PERSONALLY THE PROGRESS OF THE ITAIPU CONSTRUCTION. THE UNITED STATES LOOKS FORWARD TO FOSTERING EVEN STRONGER BONDS IN THE FUTURE, THROUGH EXPANDED TRADE AND INVESTMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT AMERICAN INVESTORS ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY AWARE OF PARAGUAY'S GREAT POTENTIAL WHICH HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED IN RECENT REPORTS OF OUR OWN EXPORT-IMPORT BANK AND THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.

RIGHT NOW, WE SHALL TAKE OFF FOR A VISIT TO THE SITE OF THE ITAIPU PROJECT, WITH FOREIGN MINISTER NOGUES AND ENGINEER DEBERNARDI. THIS INDEED IS A VERY EXCITING AND A MOST FITTING INTRODUCTION TO MODERN PARAGUAY. I AM HAPPY TO BE HERE; THANK YOU FOR YOUR CORDIAL WELCOME.

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3. ESTOY MUY CONTENTO DE HALLARME HOY EN ASUNCION, MI PRIMERA VISITA AL PARAGUAY, UN PAIS COYO HEROICO PASADO HA HECHO UNA IMPRESION INDELEBLE EN TODOS LOS ESTUDIANTES DE HISTORIA, EL VALOR Y HOSPITALIDAD DE CUYO PUEBLO SON CONOCIDOS EN TODO EL MUNDO, Y CUYA AMISTAD ES APRECIADA POR EL PUEBLO AMERICANO.

ESPERO QUE DURANTE MI ESTADIA AQUI SERA POSIBLE CONSIDERAR ASUNTOS DE MUTUO INTERES CON EL PRESIDENTE STROESSNER, EL MINISTRO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES NOGUES Y CON OTROS OFICIALES DEL GOBIERNO PARAGUAYO. ESPERO TAMBIEN QUE LA VISITA ME PROPORCIONARA UNA OPORTUNIDAD PARA CONOCER EN ESTE POCO TIEMPO, A REPRESENTANTES DE LA PRENSA, DE LA IGLESIA, DE LOS INDIGENAS, DE GRUPOS POLITICOS Y DE NEGOCIOS, A FIN DE QUE PUEDA OBTENER UNA IMPRESION DE AMPLIA ENVERGADURA DE LA REALIDAD PARAGUAY.

ANTICIPO QUE TANTO EN MIS CONVERSACIONES PRIVADAS COMO EN MI REUNION CON LOS REPRESENTANTES DE LA PRENSA ANTES DE MI PARTIDA MANANA A LA TARDE, PUEDE OCURRIR QUE SE ME HAGAN PREGUNTAS RESPECTO A NUESTRA POSICION SOBRE LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS. DESDE QUE EL PRESIDENT CARTER TOMO POSESION DEL CARGO, TANTO EL COMO EL SECRETARIO DE ESTADO VANCE HAN ENFATIZADO REPETIDAMENTE EL INTERES QUE TIENE EL PUEBLO

AMERICANO DE QUE LA POLITICA EXTERIOR DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS REFLEJE LOS ALTOS IDEALES DE NUESTRO PAIS. ESTO HA DADO POR RESULTADO QUE SE REAVIVIVEN EL INTERES EN LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS TANTO EN LOST ESTADOS UNIDOS COMO EN EL EXTERIOR. ESTE ES UN TEMA EN EL CUAL HAN MOSTRADO UN GRAN INTERES LOS PAISES CON LOS CUALES HEMOS GOZADO TRADICIONALMENTE DE ESTRECHAS Y AMISTOSAS RELACIONES. CONFIO EN QUE MI VISITA AL PARAGUAY NOS DARA LA OPORTUNIDAD PARA HACER UN INTERCAMBIO TOTAL DE PUNTOS DE VISTA SOBRE ESTE TEMA.

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /015 W  
-----051538 022157Z /63 R  
P 022105Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 761

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ASUNCION 3161

ESTA ES PARA MI MAS QUE NADA UNA VISITA DE FAMILIARIZACION. TENGO YA ALGUN CONOCIMIENTO DEL PROGRESO ECONOMICO QUE ESTE PAIS HA LOGRADO EN LOS ANOS RECIENTES, AL CUAL MI GOBIERNO HA ESTADO ORGULLOSO DE CONTRIBUIR EN COOPERACION CON EL GOVIERNO PARAGUAYO; Y SE DE LAS CASI ILIMITADAS PERSPECTIVAS PARA EL FUTURO DEL PARAGUAY CUANDO SE RELICEN LOS PROYECTOS HIDRO-ELECTRICOS DEL PARANA. MIS COLEGAS Y YO ESTAMOS DESEOSOS DE VER PERSONALMENTE EL PROGRESO DE LA CONSTRUCCION DE ITAIPU. LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS ESPERAN CON INTERES FORJAR LAZOS AUN MAS FUERTES EN EL FUTURO, MEDIANTE LA EXPANSION DEL COMERCIO Y DE LAS INVERSIONES. A ESTE RESPECTO PUEDO ASEGURARLES QUE LOS INVERSIONISTAS AMERICANOS ESTAN CONOCIENDO CADA VEZ MEJOR EL GRAN POTENCIAL DEL PARAGUAY, QUE HAS SIDO RECONOCIDE EN RECIENTES INFORMES DE NUESTRO EXPORT-IMPORT BANK Y EL BANCO INTERNACIONAL DE RECONSTRUCCION Y FOMENTO.

EN ESTE MOMENTO SALDREMOS PARA HACER UNA VISITA AL PROYECTO DE ITAIPU CON EL MINISTRO DE RELACIONES NOGUES Y EL INGENIERO DEBERNARDI. ESTA ES UNA PRESENTACION MUY INTERSANTE Y ADECUADA DEL PARAGUAY MODERNO. ESTOY FELIZE DE STAR AQUI. MUCHAS GRACIAS POR VUESTRO CORDIAL BIENVENIDA.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, PA, (TODMAN, TERENCE A)  
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